GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5079
ANSWERED ON:26.04.2002
DECLINE IN COUNTRY S SELF SUFFICIENCY IN EDIBLE OIL
RAMPAL SINGH

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether country`s self-sufficiency in edible oil sector has constantly been declining;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the level of self-sufficiency in edible oil sector during the year 2001-2002 as compared to its level in 1998-99; and

(d) the extent of increase likely to be made in the import of edible oil in the coming years in view of decline in self-sufficiency?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (S SREENIVASA PRASAD)

(a),(b)&(c): The production of oilseeds and availability of edible oils from domestic sources has been less than the demand of edible oils necessitating import of edible oils. The production of oilseeds and the availability of edible oils from domestic sources has been fluctuating. The net availability of edible oils from domestic sources, its import in 1998-99 and 2001-02 and the percentage of domestic availability to the total consumption (self- sufficiency) is indicated below:

Year	Net availability of edible oils from domestic sources in lakh MT	Import in lakh MT	Self-sufficiency%
1998-99	69.61	26.22	72.22
2001-02+	63.01	35.00	64.29

+ Estimated figures

(d): As per EXIM policy import of edible oils except coconut oil is under Open General License (OGL).As such, the import of edible oils would depend upon the commercial judgement of the importers.